

Appl. No.: 09/956,998  
October 24, 2005  
Reply to Communication of July 22, 2005

## REMARKS

Claims 4, 5, and 6 have been canceled. Entry of these amendments to the claims of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file the canceled claims in further continuations.

Claims 1, 3, and 7-12 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, and 7-12 are allowed. Notice of allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees are required as the three month shortened statutory reply date occurred on a weekend, and the reply herewith is transmitted on the first business day thereafter. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore is hereby authorized to be charged to the credit card number supplied with this response.

Respectfully submitted,



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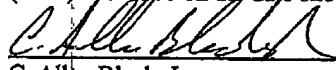
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.



C. Allen Black, Jr.

10/24/05

Date

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